

Claims:

1. A method for managing customer accounts in connection with a Pre-Paid platform (8), in which method

5

- the applications (3) communicate with the Pre-Paid platform (8),

**characterized** in that

10

- the applications (3) are arranged to communicate with a proxy (4) and the Pre-Paid platform correspondingly (8) with a charging module (5), in which case the proxy (4) and the charging module (5) communicated with each other in a logically predefined manner, in which case

15

- the proxy (4) is used to collect and manage the services used by the customers, the charging models, and the rating, and

- the charging module (5) is used to bill the customer's Pre-Paid account, which is located on the Pre-Paid platform (8), or in a system behind it.

20

2. A method according to Claim 1, **characterized** in that the proxy (4) is used to collect the price information of the services used by the user and other related information data and to transmit this data to the charging module (5).

25

3. A method according to Claim 1 or 2, **characterized** in that the price data is formed according to various charging principles (for example, content+access, content including access).

30

4. A method according to Claims 1, 2, or 3, **characterized** in that the proxy (4) is used to control the delivery of the service used by the user.

5. A method according to Claims 1, 2, 3, or 4, **characterized** in that a service code is

transmitted to the Pre-Paid platform with the aid of the call's B-number formed by the charging module.

5 6. A method according to any of the above Claims, characterized in that the proxies (4) prevent services being delivered to the user, if the user's pre-paid account is empty, or if the price of the service is greater than the funds in the Pre-Paid account.

10 7. A method according to any of the above Claims, characterized in that the charging module (5) (PCN) transfers to the Pre-Paid platform (8) the real amount of the value of the service ordered by the user, in cash or other consideration, from the user's Pre-Paid account.

15 8. A method according to any of the above Claims, characterized in that the charging module (5) transmits the charging data to the Pre-Paid platform (8), using an INAP protocol.

20 9. A method according to any of the above Claims, characterized in that the charging modules (5) transmits the charging data to the Pre-Paid platform (8), using a CAP protocol.

10. A method according to any of the above Claims, characterized in that the node (7) converts the charging or rating data obtained from the proxy (4) into voice-calls.

25 11. A method according to any of the above Claims, characterized in that the call data includes at least a B-number and a time definition.

12. A Pre-Paid mediator (7) for managing customer accounts in connection with a Pre-Paid platform (8), in which mediator (7) there are

30 - chargings means (5) for communicating with the Pre-Paid platform (8), and

- at least one proxy (4) for communicating with applications (SMS, GPRS, MMS),

**characterized** in that

5       - the data-transfer interface in the direction of the applications is formed to be logically standard, in which case the proxies (4) can be made modular,

- the proxies (4) include means for collecting and/or managing the price and other similar data of the services used by customers, and

10       - the charging means (5) include means for charging a customer's Pre-Paid account in the Pre-Paid platform.

13. A mediator according to Claim 12, **characterized** in that the proxies are not in direct contact with the Pre-Paid platform (8).

15

14. A computer software product, which implements the method according to Claim 1.